

Message Text

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ACTION SS-30

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 /031 W

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FM AMEMBASSY BUENOS AIRES

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 7451

C O N F I D E N T I A L BUENOS AIRES 5539

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, AR, US

SUBJECT: CUBA TRADE (SECTION 620(A)(3) GOA VESSELS)

REF: MILGP MESSAGES 251340Z AND 251845Z JUL, BUENOS AIRES 5523
AND PREVIOUS

1. SHOWDOWN TIME ON THE 620 ISSUE IS NOW FIVE DAYS AWAY.
ANAYA HAS DEMANDED A DEFINITIVE ANSWER BY NEXT TUESDAY. NOT
AN UNREASONABLE REQUEST SINCE THE FIRST MAP FUNDED STUDENTS
START NEXT THURSDAY.

2. TO RECAP, I SEE TWO MAJOR IMMEDIATE ISSUES: (1) ENTRE RIOS'
NOT TAKING ON CUBAN CARGO, AND (2) HIGH-LEVEL GOA ASSURANCES
ON ITS FLAG VESSELS AVOIDING CUBAN TRADE.

3. AS REPORTED (REFTELS), PEYRONEL AND CARASELES (THROUGH
MATHE) HAVE POINTEDLY INFORMED US THAT ENTRE RIOS WILL CARRY
NO CUBAN CARGO.

4. THE ASSURANCES QUESTION HAS BEEN DEEMED "POLITICAL" AND
REPORTEDLY ESCALATED TO ONE OR MORE LEVELS ABOVE CARASELES.
IT MAY ALSO HAVE MOVED Laterally. IN ANY EVENT IT IS UNLIKELY,
GIVEN THE CURRENT LEVEL OF THE ASSURANCES QUESTION THAT N
ANSWER EITHER WAY WILL BE FORTHCOMING UNTIL AT LEAST LATE
NEXT WEEK.

5. IF APPROVAL FOR NEXT WEEK'S PORTION OF THE PROGRAM
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CONTINUE TO BE WITHHELD, GIVEN OUR 620 DISCUSSIONS WITH GOA

JULY 24 AND 25, WE WILL HAVE IN EFFECT IMPOSED SANCTIONS
BEFORE ALLOWING A REASONABLE TIME FOR RESPONSE TO MY JULY
24 DEMARCHE TO CARASELES.

6. I PROPOSE WE BUY TIME FOR THE RESPONSE BY APPROVING ONLY
THE AUGUST TRAINING PORTION OF THE PROGRAM. THE AUGUST-
START LINE ITEMS RUN \$140,000-PLUS OF THE TOTAL \$600,000 AND
INCLUDE THE SENSITIVE COLONELS COURSE.

7. I BELIEVE THIS INCREMENTAL APPROACH WOULD GET US THROUGH
THE GOA ASSURANCES DECISION - MAKING PERIOD WITHOUT PREMATURELY
DENYING US WHATEVER POSITIVE EFFECTS THEIR DECISION MAY HAVE.
TO DATE GOA HAS SHOWN GOOD FAITH IN DEALING WITH US ON THIS
ISSUE. A POSITIVE MOVE ON OUR PART AT THIS JUNCTURE WOULD SHOW
THAT WE HAVE NOT PREJUDGED THE ISSUE AND ARE ALSO DEALING IN
GOOD FAITH.

8. I REGRET HANDING YOU A FRIDAY AFTERNOON PROBLEM
NEEDING A MONDAY JULY 29 ANSWER, BUT I FEEL THIS OPTION SHOULD
BE LOOKED AT.
HILL

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